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Dear producers and other data users:

Information contained herein is the result of mail, phone and personal interview surveys conducted during the past few weeks. Special recognition and appreciation are extended to all producers and agribusinesses who provided data making these reports possible.

William G. Hamlin
State Statistician

Prices Received By Farmers

The preliminary United States All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in May is 107, based on 1990-92=100, up six points (5.9 percent) from the April index. Higher prices for lettuce, hogs, broilers, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for eggs, asparagus, onions, and tomatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average

marketings of cantaloupes, grapes, sweet corn, and peaches offset decreased marketings of cattle, dairy, apples and asparagus.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (12 percent) from May 2002. Higher prices for cattle, lettuce, corn, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for dairy, potatoes, sweet corn, and tomatoes.

Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary May 2003 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Nebraska			United States				
		May 2002 ¹	April 2003 ¹	May 15, 2003	May 2002 ¹	April 2003 ¹	May 15, 2003	% of Parity	Parity Price ²
		<i>Dollars</i>			<i>Dollars</i>				
Wheat, All	Bushel	2.71	3.22	3.35	2.81	3.37	3.43	36	9.66
Corn	Bushel	1.91	2.31	2.35	1.93	2.34	2.44	37	6.60
Oats	Bushel	2.20	2.48	2.40	1.99	1.99	1.96	48	4.12
Grain Sorghum	Cwt	3.21	4.03	3.95	3.17	3.96	4.01	36	11.20
Soybeans	Bushel	4.52	5.76	6.10	4.64	5.82	6.19	43	14.40
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	61.00	80.00	77.00	103.00	94.50	99.20		
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	62.00	80.00	77.00	108.00	96.20	102.00		
Other, Baled	Ton	54.00	76.00	74.00	79.20	86.40	87.30		
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt	20.70	17.40	17.50	27.80	18.80	18.00	36	50.40
Hogs	Cwt	36.30	36.90	42.80	33.20	34.80	40.60	40	102.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt	36.50	37.10	43.00	33.60	35.30	41.10		
Sows	Cwt	24.50	27.40	30.60	23.50	26.00	29.20		
Beef Cattle	Cwt	66.60	79.10	79.60	65.10	74.60	74.90	47	161.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	67.50	80.30	80.80	68.10	78.80	79.00		
Cows	Cwt	38.90	40.30	40.30	39.80	40.20	41.10		
Calves	Cwt	97.20	106.00	107.00	99.50	99.10	99.30	46	216.00
Sheep	Cwt	22.00	31.50		25.30	30.90			78.90
Lambs	Cwt	66.00	97.00		64.40	93.60			185.00

¹ Entire month average except hay. ² Parity price based on data for May 2003.

Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices May 30, 2003.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs Per Litter, and Pig Crop,
United States December-November 2002-2003 ^{1 2}**

Month	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Dec ¹	923	908	8.66	8.75	7,994	7,943
Jan	946	931	8.73	8.82	8,257	8,211
Feb	967	928	8.83	8.86	8,543	8,220
Mar	978	940	8.80	8.85	8,608	8,319
Apr	983	944	8.85	8.88	8,700	8,382
May	982		8.81		8,651	
Jun	960		8.89		8,537	
Jul	968		8.89		8,609	
Aug	959		8.92		8,554	
Sep	951		8.85		8,416	
Oct	940		8.83		8,300	
Nov	926		8.83		8,176	
Total	11,483		8.83		101,344	

¹ December preceding year.

² Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.

Source: USDA NASS Monthly Hogs and Pigs, May 30, 2003.

**Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and
United States, April 2003 with Comparisons**

Item	2002	2003	2003/2002
	<i>Millions</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Number of Layers			
Nebraska	11.4	11.8	103
30 States	315.6	313.2	99
United States	336.8	335.8	100
Eggs Produced			
Nebraska	238	252	106
30 States	6,672	6,657	100
United States	7,105	7,129	100
Chickens Hatched, April			
United States			
Egg-type	38.1	37.5	99
Broiler	765.4	761.1	99
Hatched thru April			
Egg-type	145.2	137.7	95
Broiler	3,036.8	2,990.3	98

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, May 22, 2003.

**Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity,
Nebraska and United States,
April 2003 with Comparisons**

Item	Total ¹	April 2003 Percent of	
		April 2002	March 2003
Nebraska	<i>1,000 Head</i>		
Cattle, head	650.1	101	112
Hogs, head	568.4	99	101
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	599.0	98	107
United States			
Cattle, head	2,966.2	101	107
Calves, head	79.3	97	93
Hogs, head	8,333.5	99	102
Sheep & Lambs, head	295.6	106	112
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	3,845.5	99	104

¹ Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, May 23, 2003.

Milk Cows: Inventory, by District, Nebraska, January 1, 2001-2003

District	2001	2002	2003
	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>
Northwest	500	400	400
North	6,500	5,600	4,500
Northeast	26,100	25,100	24,600
Central	7,500	6,300	6,400
East	12,900	12,100	12,000
Southwest	4,400	4,300	4,500
South	5,200	3,500	3,300
Southeast	11,900	10,700	10,300
Nebraska	75,000	68,000	66,000

Source: USDA NASS

Meat Animals Production, Disposition, and Income

Production, Disposition, and Income: Cattle and Calves, Nebraska and United States, 2001-2002

Inventory, Supply, and Disposition ¹					Production and Income				
Item	Nebraska		United States		Item	Nebraska		United States	
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	2001	2002
<i>Thousand Head</i>									
Inventory,					Production ⁴				
January 1	6,600	6,400	97,277	96,704	Million lbs	4,335.3	4,493.1	42,395.7	42,249.8
Calf Crop	1,820	1,820	38,280	38,193	Marketings ⁵				
Inshipments	3,850	3,840	21,813	21,512	Million lbs	6,965.5	7,267.1	55,346.4	55,923.2
Marketings ²					Price per cwt.				
Cattle	5,603	5,618	46,659	46,287	Cattle \$	72.60	68.10	71.30	66.50
Calves	85	85	9,603	9,747	Calves \$	108.00	100.00	106.00	96.40
Farm slaughter ³	2	2	194	194	Value of Production				
Deaths					Million \$	2,711.1	2,630.0	29,293.2	26,914.7
Cattle	85	80	1,722	1,710	Cash Receipts ⁶				
Calves	95	75	2,487	2,366	Million \$	5,066.8	4,958.6	40,442.1	37,968.5
Inventory,					Gross Income ⁷				
End of Year	6,400	6,200	96,704	96,106	Million \$	5,075.6	4,967.0	40,804.9	38,302.2

Production, Disposition, and Income: Hogs and Pigs, Nebraska and United States, 2001-2002

Inventory, Supply, and Disposition ¹					Production and Income				
Item	Nebraska		United States		Item	Nebraska		United States	
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	2001	2002
<i>Thousand Head</i>									
Inventory, December 1					Production ⁴				
Previous Year	3,050	2,900	59,138	59,804	Million lbs	1,450.8	1,496.0	25,883.9	26,254.0
Pig Crop (Dec - Nov)	5,425	6,095	100,503	101,344	Marketings ⁵				
Inshipments	750	900	26,889	29,301	Million lbs	1,505.1	1,503.4	26,800.3	27,343.4
Marketings ²	6,054	6,689	119,262	123,677	Average Price				
Farm slaughter ³	1	1	119	114	per cwt. \$	46.30	36.60	44.30	33.40
Deaths	270	255	7,345	7,145	Value of Production				
Inventory					Million \$ ⁸	666.4	551.6	11,430.0	8,679.3
December 1	2,900	2,950	59,804	59,513	Cash Receipts ^{6,8}				
					Million \$	712.7	584.4	12,426.7	9,625.7
					Gross Income ⁷				
					Million \$	713.9	585.3	12,462.2	9,651.3

Production, Disposition, and Income: Sheep and Lambs, Nebraska and United States, 2001-2002

Inventory, Supply, and Disposition ¹					Production and Income				
Item	Nebraska		United States		Item	Nebraska		United States	
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	2001	2002
<i>Thousand Head</i>									
Inventory					Production ⁴				
January 1 ⁹	114	101	6,965	6,685	Million lbs	10.4	9.6	495.6	484.0
Lamb Crop	86	80	4,495	4,360	Marketings ⁵				
Inshipments	57	54	1,543	1,742	Million lbs	17.2	15.1	640.7	652.3
Marketings ²					Price per cwt.				
Sheep	51	30	711	869	Sheep \$	34.50	27.40	34.60	28.20
Lambs	91.6	99.6	4,795	4,810	Lambs \$	61.20	73.60	66.90	74.10
Farm slaughter ³	.4	.4	66	65	Value of Production				
Deaths					Million \$	5.4	5.8	298.4	313.0
Sheep	4	4	273	264	Cash Receipts ⁶				
Lambs	9	12	473	428	Million \$	8.6	9.2	397.3	430.5
Inventory					Gross Income ⁷				
End of Year ⁹	101	89	6,685	6,350	Million \$	8.7	9.2	405.6	439.0

¹ Balance sheet estimates. ² Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the State. ³ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments. ⁴ Adjustments made for changes in inventory and for inshipments. ⁵ Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State. ⁶ Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter. ⁷ Difference between gross income and cash receipts equals value of home consumption. ⁸ Includes allowance for higher average price of State inshipments and outshipments of feeder pigs. ⁹ Includes new crop lambs.

Source: USDA NASS Meat Animals Production, Disposition, and Income 2002 Summary, April 25, 2003.

**Farm Labor: Number and Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers,
Selected Regions and United States, April 7-13, 2002 & April 6-12, 2003 ¹**

Region ²	Number of Workers		Wage Rates							
			All Hired Workers		Type of work					
					Field		Livestock		Field & Livestock	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Dollars per Hour</i>							
Lake	55	56	9.88	9.90	9.43	9.31	8.44	9.20	9.01	9.26
Cornbelt I	43	50	9.23	9.99	8.59	9.29	8.90	9.32	8.70	9.30
Cornbelt II	27	24	9.34	10.71	7.84	9.94	9.82	10.00	8.89	9.97
Northern Plains	37	28	9.22	9.46	8.48	9.08	8.06	9.28	8.31	9.16
Southern Plains	60	49	7.95	8.31	6.92	7.62	7.78	7.98	7.31	7.75
Mountain I	28	19	8.00	7.93	7.55	7.63	7.92	7.68	7.80	7.66
Mountain II	25	22	8.95	9.43	8.06	8.32	8.58	8.86	8.26	8.60
United States	890	781	8.83	9.16	8.06	8.40	8.43	8.75	8.15	8.49

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers.

² Regions consist of the following: Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; Cornbelt I: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio; Cornbelt II: Iowa, Missouri; Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota; Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas; Mountain I: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming; Mountain II: Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, May 16, 2003.

**All Hired Workers: Wage Rates, by Economic Class of Farm
by Region and 48 States, April 7-13, 2002 & April 6-12, 2003¹**

Region ²	April 7-13, 2002					April 6-12, 2003				
	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000- \$99,999	\$100,000- \$249,999	\$250,000 & over	All Farms	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000- \$99,999	\$100,000- \$249,999	\$250,000 & over	All Farms
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>									
Northeast	7.81	7.85	7.53	9.51	8.99	8.76	8.93	³	10.14	9.99
Appalachian	7.49	7.83	7.68	8.46	8.15	6.95	7.64	8.99	8.90	8.21
Southeast	³	7.56	8.47	8.36	8.27	9.30	³	8.50	8.85	8.81
Lake	11.49	9.97	7.97	9.73	9.88	10.52	³	8.12	10.29	9.90
Cornbelt	9.59	7.66	8.43	9.83	9.27	9.14	8.51	8.30	10.98	10.20
Delta	7.46	6.91	8.25	7.26	7.50	7.22	7.11	6.92	7.71	7.63
No. Plains	6.99	8.92	7.23	9.79	9.22	7.86	8.23	³	9.28	9.46
So. Plains	8.02	7.33	7.23	8.23	7.95	8.95	7.30	8.07	8.21	8.31
Mountain	7.46	7.60	7.97	8.58	8.36	7.01	6.91	7.19	8.75	8.45
Pacific	³	9.87	8.70	9.10	9.12	9.10	9.19	8.98	9.35	9.24
48 States	8.68	8.33	8.12	9.01	8.81	8.48	8.98	8.82	9.41	9.14

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Regions consist of: Northeast: CT, DE, MD, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT. Appalachian: KY, NC, TN, VA, WV. Southeast: AL, FL, GA, SC. Lake: MI, MN, WI. Cornbelt: IA, IL, IN, MO, OH. Delta: AR, LA, MS. Northern Plains: KS, NE, ND, SD. Southern Plains: OK, TX. Mountain: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY. Pacific: CA, OR, WA. 48 States: All States, excluding AK and HI. ³ Insufficient data.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, May 16, 2003.

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